

ANNUAL REPORT FOR

1951

to

THE EVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

by

J.J. MURRAY, M.B., D.P.H.

(District Medical Officer of Health)

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR, 1951.

Mr. Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Nightingale and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the health of your District for the year 1951.

VITAL STATISTICS:

Registrar-General's population estimate - 11,950.

BIRTHS:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	89	108	197
Illegitimate	4	5	9
	<u>93</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>206</u>

STILL BIRTHS:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

1950

Birth rate per 1000 of estimated resident population - 17.2 16.3

Still-birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births - 19.0 Nil

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>DEATHS:</u>	97	72	169

Death rate per 1000 of estimated resident population - 14.1 15.3

Deaths from Pregnancy and Childbirth: - Nil.

Rates per 1000 total (live and still) births - Nil.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Deaths of infants under one year	3	4	7	5
Deaths of legitimate infants	3	4	7	4
Deaths of illegitimate infants	-	-	-	1

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR:

All infants per 1000 live births	34	26
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	35	22
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil	125

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	35	32
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil	Nil

Comparison with some of the figures for the whole country is as follows:-

	<u>England and Wales.</u>	<u>District.</u>	<u>District.</u>
	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1950.</u>
Birth Rate	15.5	17.2	16.3
Death Rate	12.5	14.1	15.3
Infant Mortality Rate	29.6	34.0	26.0

CAUSES OF DEATH TABLE FOR 1951.

<u>Cause of Death:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1.T.B. of respiratory system	3	-	3
2.Other forms of T.B.	1	-	1
3.Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
4.D ⁴ iphtheria	-	-	-
5.Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6.Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7.Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8.Measles	-	-	-
9.Other infective and para: dis:	-	-	-
10.Cancer of Stomach	4	2	6
11.Cancer of Lungs	6	-	6
12.Cancer of Breast	-	7	7
13.Cancer of Uterus	-	1	1
14.Cancer of (Lymph: and other types)	12	3	15
Total:	<u>22</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>35</u>
15.Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
16.Diabetes	-	-	-
17.Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	9	21
18.Coronary Dis:, angina	12	5	17
19.Hyper-tension with heart dis:	4	3	7
20.Other heart dis:	18	11	29
21.Other circulatory dis:	2	2	4
22.Influenza	1	-	1
23.Pneumonia	1	1	2
24.Bronchitis	6	9	15
25.Other dis: of res: system	1	-	1
26.Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
27.Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28.Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
29.Hyper-plasia of prostate	1	-	1
30.Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31.Congenital malformations	-	1	1
32.Other defined and ill defined dis:	10	18	28
33.Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34.Other accidental causes	1	-	1
35.Suicide	-	-	-
36.Other violent causes	-	-	-
TOTAL:	<u>97</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>169.</u>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Regional Hospital Board arrangements for the treatment of infectious diseases and the ambulance system are both working quite satisfactorily.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The extension of the Fairfield Housing Estate has necessitated the laying of approximately 300 yards of new 2" and 3" water mains on to site No. 5.

The quality of the Borough water remains quite satisfactory and the supply has been adequately maintained during the year.

The protective rabbit and stock proof fencing at the Middle Hill and Brockhampton Springs has now been erected and these measures should prevent any possible contamination of the water supply.

Thirteen samples of water from the town supply were sent to Worcester for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis of which one proved unsatisfactory in both respects, this apparently being due to a sampling error as a subsequent sample from the same address proved satisfactory.

An analysis of the town water for plumbo-solvency action showed a very slight tendency in this direction but in the opinion of the County Analyst the amount of metal likely to be dissolved under ordinary circumstances would be harmless.

All houses in the Borough are supplied by piped water and there are no stand-pipes for domestic supply.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Specification, Bills of Quantity, etc., for the new Sewage Disposal Works have now been completed and application made to the Ministry for Authority to invite tenders for the work.

The Town Council's Consulting Engineer reported that owing to the difficulty in obtaining materials there was no prospect of the works commencing before April, 1953, and in order to alleviate any further delay at a later date certain materials subject to long delivery periods, such as pipes, were placed on order.

The effluent from the existing Sewage Works continues to be unsatisfactory despite certain repairs and improvements which have been carried out there during the year.

Tenders were invited during the year for a new Temporary Sewage Disposal Unit to deal with sewage from part of the Fairfield Housing Estate which is too low to be connected to the main sewage system. The construction of this unit should be completed by the middle of 1952.

HOUSING.

Building work has continued during the year on the Fairfield Estate and the Housing Contractors handed over the last of the 36 houses on site No. 3 in June. This makes a total of 26 houses completed on this site during the year.

On Fairfield No. 4 Site 44 houses were completed by the end of the year and several more were in the course of construction. The remaining houses on this site should be completed early in 1952.

The Housing Contractors have commenced work on the Fairfield No. 5 site and although no houses were completed by the end of the year several were in the course of construction.

At the Elm site the remaining six houses were completed and handed over early in the year.

The 76 council houses completed during the year makes a total of 311 dwellings built by the Town Council since the war, made up as follows:-

Traditional houses	-	196
Maisonettes	-	12
Permanent Prefabricated Houses	-	74
Temporary Prefabricated Houses	-	29
		311

Also during the year 3 houses were completed under private enterprise and seven more were in the course of construction at the end of the year.

A detailed survey of the older property in the Borough was commenced with a view to extensive action being taken under the Housing Acts to secure demolition where necessary and repairs.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Inspections of premises under the Food and Drugs Act were carried out by the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Additional Sanitary Inspector.

Slaughtering was discontinued at the Ministry of Food slaughtering centre after August, the local bacon factory is, however, still operating.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed	583	311	282	2547	32431
Number inspected	583	311	282	2547	32431
All diseases except T.B:					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	2	29	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	164	76	3	270	847
Approx. percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	28%	25%	1.7%	11.7%	2.6%
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	6	1	Nil	24
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	52	81	Nil	Nil	1297
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	9%	28%	0.35%	Nil	4%



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Approximately 25 tons of meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year.

Other foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered were:-

Tinned goods	-	2302 tins.
Bottled goods	-	99 bottles
Fish	-	543 lbs.
Eggs	-	606
Other goods	-	3103 lbs.

FOOD POISONING.

There were no cases of food poisoning reported during 1951.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Ice Cream:

No. of premises registered	-	Manufacture & Sale	-	3
		Sale only		44

Of 55 samples taken 54 proved satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory sample was found to be due to the use of old stock complete cold mix powder which had been unsealed during storage.

Fifty-six inspections of ice-cream premises were carried out.

Manufacture of Sausage, Potted, Pressed, Pickled and Preserved Food:

No. of premises registered	-	15
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Thirty-two inspections were made and one notice requiring re-decoration was complied with.

Food Shops and Cafe Kitchens:

159 inspections were made and 16 notices requiring repairs, re-decoration, cleaning and supply of hot water were complied with.

Milk and Dairies:

No. of Dairymen and Purveyors	-	4
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Designated milks (all heat treated) only are sold in the Borough.

Of 54 samples taken all showed satisfactory keeping quality. Four, however, failed on the phosphatase test.

Byelaws Under Section 15 of Food & Drugs Act:

Byelaws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air were adopted by the authority during the year.

Food traders have been circularised with copies of the byelaws and frequent visits have been made to ensure that provisions are complied with.

The high price and short supply of wrapping paper proved to be a draw-back in the enforcement of these byelaws.

Clean Food Campaign:

Work was started on a complete survey of food shops with a view to ascertaining the general level of hygiene and to give traders an opportunity to bring their premises up to the required standard.

A number of lectures and film shows (the latter provided by the Central Office of Information) were given to food handlers.

Shops and Offices:

Five notices requiring the provision of sanitary accommodation and washing facilities were complied with.

Camping Sites:

One further camping site for caravans only was licensed during the year making a total of 4. These sites provide accommodation for about 650 persons during the season.

About 45 caravans and chalets are in permanent occupation. These are restricted to three sites, two of which have properly constructed sanitary blocks connected to the sewer.

All sites are provided with mains water and were inspected at least once a month. Conditions proved to be satisfactory.

Swimming Baths:

The public baths at Common Road are municipally owned. Water is derived from the town main supply and is continually filtered and chlorinated. Daily tests for chlorination efficiency proved satisfactory.

Smoke Nuisances:

One boiler plant continues to give rise to grit nuisance but the anticipated delivery of new apparatus should abate this atmospheric pollution.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health:-

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspect-ions.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sec.1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	12	1	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	91	31	2	-
(111) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total:	101	43	3	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects wer found.				Number of cases in which pro-secutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To.H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	2	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Total:-	4	3	-	2	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

(Sec.110 & 111)

During the year 3 Outworkers were employed in the Borough on Glove making. Working conditions were found to be quite satisfactory.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIONS DISEASES.

Notified diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1951.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever	6	2	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-
Pneumonia	4	1	2
Dysentery	-	-	-
Measles	304	-	-
Whooping Cough	31	-	-
Erysipelas	7	3	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Ac.Inf.Encephalitis	1	-	-
	354	7	2

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
CASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE
YEAR 1951.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning	Ac. Inf. Encephalitis
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 4 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	80	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 years	5	-	-	-	1	145	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 - 15 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 20 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21 - 35 years	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
36 - 45 years	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 65 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
66 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
	6	-	-	1	4	304	31	7	-	-	-	-	-	1

DIPHTHERIA.

A case of suspected diphtheria was notified during January but subsequent tests proved negative.

WHOOPIING COUGH AND MEASLES.

The 31 cases of whooping cough notified showed a slight decrease over last year when 48 cases were recorded.

An outbreak of measles occurred early in the year, 300 cases being notified during the first 6 months. The peak, however, was reached during May and the number of cases notified from July to December was only 4.

There were no deaths from either disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

A mild outbreak of Scarlet Fever occurred in February and March with the result that 6 children - all under 10 years of age - were notified as suffering from the disease. Two of the cases were removed to New town Isolation Hospital for treatment but all recovered.

POLIOMYELITIS.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during 1951.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year immunisation of children against diphtheria has been carried on actively and a total of 159 children were immunised as follows:-

<u>0 - 4 (inc)</u>	<u>5 - 14 (inc)</u>
156	3

These figures include immunisations carried out by private practitioners.

Since 1940 to the end of 1951 a total of 3352 children in the Borough have been immunised against diphtheria.

No school closure was necessitated by infectious disease during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives particulars of the 16 new cases of Tuberculosis (as against 15 in 1950), and of all deaths from the disease in the area during 1951.

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmon.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmon.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	4	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
	9	5	2	-	3	-	2	-
								<u>1950</u>
Number of deaths from non-notified Tuberculosis						-	1	<u>Nil</u>
Total number of Tuberculosis deaths						-	5	8

The number of births during the year showed an increase of 13 over last year whilst the number of deaths decreased by 12. Of the total number of deaths during 1951 approximately 75% occurred in persons aged 65 years and over and there were 7 deaths in infants under 1 year of age as compared with 5 in 1950.

As far as it can be evaluated the health standards in the Borough are quite satisfactory.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their assistance during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J.J. MURRAY

Medical Officer of Health.

